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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

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GENERAL WASHINGTON.

PREDICTION MADE CONCERNING HIM IN 1755.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY, JUNE, 1892.

Dr. SAMUEL A. GREEN made the following remarks on a small volume which he presented to the library of the Society. He said that it had once belonged to our late associate, Dr. Thomas H. Webb, as it bears his autograph signature on the titlepage. It was published originally as a pamphlet, but has since been bound. The little book is entitled: "RELIGION | AND | PATRIOTISM | The CONSTITUENTS of a Good | SOLDIER. | A | SERMON | Preached to | Captain OVERTON'S Independant | Company of Volunteers, raised in | *Hanover* County, *Virginia*, *August* 17, 1755. | By SAMUEL DAVIES, *A. M. Minister of | the Gospel there.*" ||

PHILADELPHIA, Printed: LONDON; Re-printed for J. BUCKLAND, in *Pater-noster Row*, J. WARD at the *King's-Arms* in *Cornhill*, and T. FIELD in *Cheapside*. 1756. 8vo. pp. 38.

The writer in his day was a noted minister of Virginia; but the interest in the sermon lies wholly in the fact that it contains a remarkable prediction concerning General Washington, made twenty years before the Revolution. In preaching to the military company, Mr. Davies says:—

[1892]

“Our Continent is like to become the Seat of War ; and we, for the future (till the sundry *European* Nations that have planted Colonies in it, have fixed their Boundaries by the Sword) have no other Way left to defend our Rights and Privileges. And has God been pleased to diffuse some Sparks of this Martial Fire through our Country ? I hope he has : And though it has been almost extinguished by so long a Peace, and a Deluge of Luxury and Pleasure, now I hope it begins to kindle : And may I not produce you my Brethren, who are engaged in this Expedition, as Instances of it ? ” (Pages 11, 12.)

In a foot-note to this paragraph he adds : —

“As a remarkable Instance of this, I may point out to the Public that heroic Youth Col. *Washington*, whom I cannot but hope Providence has hitherto preserved in so signal a Manner, for some important Service to his Country.” (Page 12.)

The sermon was preached only a few weeks after the engagement which resulted in Braddock's Defeat, where *Washington* behaved with signal gallantry ; and the allusion ~~to him~~ in the note is to that action, as well as to the battle of the Great Meadows in the summer of the preceding year.



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